Availability of water in the country

†719. DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the availability of additional water in the country through rain and rivers is possible only for the very short period;

(b) if not, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) if so, the estimate made for the time period in this regard;

(d) whether it is also a fact that requirement of water in the country can be met only by way of storing water in the above situation; and

(e) if so, Goverment's reation thereto and prospective scheme in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) About 75% of rainfall occurs during monsoon period (June to October) with a considerable part from a few spells of intense rainfall.

(d) For meeting the requirement of water in the country, it is necessary to store and conserve the water.

(e) Major, medium & minor water resources schemes are planned by the respective State Governments for meeting the requirements. Further measures like rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge are also adopted for conserving the water.

Privatisation of Water Distribution System in Delhi

720. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are proposals on the anvil for reforming the water distribution schemes of State Governments sponsored by the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details of such projects and the present status of each of these projects;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.